



**Keswick**  
**Urban District Council**

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**ANNUAL REPORT**

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health,**  
**CHARLES A. MASON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.**

---

**FOR THE YEAR 1943.**

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Together with the Summary of Work  
of the Sanitary Inspector.



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T. Bakewell, Printer, Main Street, Keswick.

# Keswick Urban District Council

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
KESWICK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1943, which has been drawn up in accordance with Circular 1961 of the Ministry of Health dated 16th February, 1940, and the Registrar General's Memorandum SD/54 received July, 1944, as directed.

War-time duties and responsibilities have again been carried out loyally by members of the Council and its officials and voluntary workers throughout the district.

I am,  
Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,

CHARLES A. MASON,  
Medical Officer of Health.



# STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area (acres) 1,272.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (mid-1943), 5,278  
(see page 5)

Number of inhabited houses (end 1943), according to Rate Books, 1,418.

Rateable Value, £35,087.

Sum represented by Penny Rate, £142 1s. 4d.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

	Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	47	27	20	Live Birth Rate (R.G.), 10.2
\ Legitimate	7	4	3	
/ Illegitimate	1	—	1	Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births, 18.1
Still Births				

	Total	M.	F.	
Deaths	86	40	46	Crude Death Rate (R.G.) 16.2 per 1,000 of estimated resident population.

### Maternal Mortality.—

Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Childbirth) :

	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births
Puerperal Sepsis	0	nil.
Other Puerperal Causes	0	nil.
Total	0	nil.

### Infantile Mortality.—

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	...	...	...	...	3
Death Rate „	„	„	„	(approx) :—	
All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	55
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...	...	...	...	64
Illegitimate „	„	illegitimate	„	...	nil.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	0
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	0
„ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	0
„ Cancer	...	...	...	12

# KESWICK URBAN DISTRICT.

## ANNUAL REPORT of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1943.

The area of the district in statute acres (land and inland water) is 1,272. Social conditions and local industries remain as hitherto.

Meteorological Conditions.—These are shown in a report by Mr. Tom Wilson, Official Observer to the Meteorological Office and Air Ministry, and given at the end of this report.

### POPULATION

For 1943 the figure given for the resident population of the district by the Registrar General is 5,278, on which the birth and death rates and the incidence of notifiable diseases are based. (N.B.—Figures relating to non-civilians are excluded.)

(The figure for 1942 was 5,880.)

### PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

In the Keswick Urban District, which is included in the Mid-Cumberland Guardians' area, the number of persons in receipt of out-door relief was 27, giving a proportion of (approximately) 1 in 195 of the population, as compared with 1 in 210 in 1942.

Four persons were admitted to the Public Assistance Hospital from this district during the year, giving a proportion of 1 in 1,319 of the population, as compared with 1 in 1,960 in 1942.

Comparisons with 1942 :—

	Out-door Relief	Indoor Relief
Keswick U.D., 1943	27	4
1942	28	3

### VITAL STATISTICS—BIRTHS

LIVE BIRTHS.—There were 54 Live Births (31 males and 23 females) registered as belonging to the district: of these 7 (4 males and 3 females) were illegitimate.

The Live Birth Rate was accordingly 10.2 per 1,000 of the population, compared with 8.1 for the previous year.

Comparisons may be given as follows :—

Birth Rates, 1943—Cumberland	... ..	17.4
Rural Districts of Cumberland...		17.2
Urban Districts of Cumberland .		17.6
England and Wales	... ..	16.5
Keswick Urban District	... ..	10.2

The percentage of Illegitimate Live Births was 12.9, as compared with nil. in 1942.

## CAUSES OF DEATHS IN 1943

CAUSES OF DEATH.							Males	Females	
ALL CAUSES ...							40	...	46
1.	Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever ...							...	
2.	Cerebro-Spinal Fever ...							...	
3.	Scarlet Fever ...							...	
4.	Whooping-cough ...							...	
5.	Diphtheria ...							...	
6.	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System ...						1	...	
7.	Other Forms of Tuberculosis ...						2	...	1
8.	Syphilitic diseases ...							...	
9.	Influenza ...						1	...	
10.	Measles ...							...	
11.	Ae : Polio-myelitis and Polio-encephalitis ...							...	
12.	Ae : inf : encephalitis ...							...	
13.	Cancer of b : cav : and oesoph : (M.) Uterus (F.).						1	...	1
14.	,, stomach and duodenum ...						1	...	1
15.	,, breast ...							...	3
16.	,, all other sites ...						1	...	4
17.	Diabetes ...							...	1
18.	Intra-eran : vase : lesions ...						2	...	10
19.	Heart Dis : ...						11	...	13
20.	Other Dis : of circulatory system ...						1	...	2
21.	Bronchitis ...						1	...	1
22.	Pneumonia (all forms) ...						2	...	2
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases ...						4	...	2
24.	Ulcer : of stomach or duodenum ...						1	...	
25.	Diarrhœa under 2 years ...							...	
26.	Appendicitis ...							...	
27.	Other Digestive Diseases ...						2	...	
28.	Nephritis ...						1	...	2
29.	Puerperal and post-abortion : sepsis ...							...	
30.	Other Maternal Causes ...							...	
31.	Premature Birth ...						3	...	
32.	Congen : malform : birth inj : infant dis. ...							...	
33.	Suicide ...							...	
34.	Road Traffic acc : ...							...	
35.	Other violent causes ...						1	...	2
36.	All other causes ...						4	...	1
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age—Total ...							3	...	
Legitimate ...							3	...	
Illegitimate ...								...	
							Males	Females	
LIVE BIRTHS	}	TOTAL ...	...	...	...	...	31	...	23
		Legitimate ...	...	...	...	...	27	...	20
		Illegitimate ...	...	...	...	...	4	...	3
STILL BIRTHS	}	TOTAL ...	...	...	...	...		...	1
		Legitimate ...	...	...	...	...		...	1
		Illegitimate ...	...	...	...	...		...	
POPULATION (for Births and Deaths)—1943—R.G.							...	...	5,278

STILL BIRTHS.—There was one still birth (legitimate) registered, so that the still birth rate was .18 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with one still birth and a rate of .17 in 1942. (The rate for all England and Wales was 0.50.)

The still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births was also 18.1, as compared with 20.4 in 1942.

## DEATHS

The number of deaths registered as belonging to Keswick was 86. This gives a crude death rate of 16.2 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 13.2 for the previous year. An Adjusting or Area Comparability Factor has not been provided by the Registrar General for 1943, so the adjusted death rate (which almost certainly would be lower) cannot be given.

Comparisons :—

	Crude
Death Rates, 1943—Cumberland ... ..	12.3
Rural Districts of Cumberland ...	12.3
Urban Districts of Cumberland ...	12.4
England and Wales ... ..	12.1
Keswick Urban District ...	16.2

## INFANTILE MORTALITY

There were three deaths among infants under one year of age, so that the Infantile Mortality Rate was 55.5 per 1,000 births, as compared with one death and a rate of 20.8 in 1942.

All three deaths were due to premature birth.

The Illegitimate Infantile Mortality Rate (again no deaths) per 1,000 illegitimate births, and the Legitimate Infantile Mortality Rate (3 deaths) per 1,000 legitimate births, were respectively nil. and 63.8. These latter rates were nil. and 20.8 for the previous year.

Comparisons may be given as follows :—

Infantile Mortality Rates, 1943 :—

Cumberland ... ..	48
Rural Districts of Cumberland ... ..	48
Urban Districts of Cumberland ... ..	48
England and Wales... ..	49
Keswick Urban District (approx.) ...	55

## SENILE DEATH RATE

54 persons had attained the age of 65 years or upwards. This number represents a Senile Death Rate of 62.7 per cent. of the total deaths, as compared with 60.2 for 1942.

Out of the total 54 deaths :—

7 (2 m. 5 f.)	persons died between the ages of 65 and 70 years
17 (8 m. 9 f.)	„ „ „ 70 and 75 years
17 (5 m. 12 f.)	„ „ „ 75 and 80 years
8 (2 m. 6 f.)	„ „ „ 80 and 85 years
3 (2 m. 1 f.)	„ „ „ 85 and 90 years
2 (1 m. 1 f.)	„ „ at ages 92 and 91 years respectively.

## INQUESTS, UNCERTIFIED DEATHS AND VIOLENCE

In respect of deaths belonging to the district during the year, there were four inquests. Two inquests were held within the district in respect of non-residents. Two deaths were “Uncertified.”

No Coroner's certificates were received of cases where post-mortem examination had been made, but no inquest held.



VIOLENCE.—The death rate due to Violence (all forms) was 0.56 per 1,000 of the population in the Keswick Urban District. Below will be seen the number of deaths from Suicide, Road Traffic Accident, Other Violence and the Total Violence Deaths, together with the percentages of the total deaths from all causes, and the death rates from each per 1,000 of the population :—

	Suicide		Road Traffic Acc.		Other Violence excluding Road Traffic Acc.		Total Violence	
	1943	1942	1943	1942	1943	1942	1943	1942
Deaths ...	nil.	1	nil.	2	3	nil.	3	3
% of all causes	nil.	1.28	nil.	2.56	3.48	nil.	3.48	3.84
Death Rate per 1,000 popu- lation ...	nil.	.17	nil.	.339	.56	nil.	.56	.51

The three violence deaths during the year include 1 due to severe scalds, 1 occupational and 1 due to shock and fractured femur from a fall.

## CANCER

Cancer proved fatal in 12 cases, as follows :—

System	Primary Organ	Males	Females	Years
Alimentary	... Oesophagus	1		71
	Stomach	1	1	70, 75
	Bowel		1	67
Glandular	... Breast		3	61, 70, 83
Respiratory	... Lung		1	69
Hepatic	... Gall-bladder	2	1	52, 62, 67
Reproductive	... Uterus		1	65
Totals	...	4	8	

This number corresponds to a cancer death rate of 2.2 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 2.7 in 1942.

Approximately out of every 7 deaths of persons belonging to this district 1 was due to cancer.

## TUBERCULOSIS

(Vide also page 13).

There were 4 deaths due to Tuberculosis :—

	Males	Females
Respiratory System ...	1	0
Non-Pulmonary ...	2	1

Three of these cases (1 m. pulm. and 2 f. non-pulm.) were previously notified in this district.

The total gives a tuberculosis (all forms) death rate of 0.75 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 0.51 for 1942.

The death rate for tuberculosis of the Respiratory System is also 0.18 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 0.51 for 1942.

## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

### PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

1. Part-time Medical Officer of Health.
2. One Sanitary Inspector, Mr. J. Jenkins, who is also the Surveyor and Water Engineer, is a Fellow of the Chartered Surveyors' Institute (by examination), and possesses the Sanitary Inspector's Certificate and the Special Meat Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Miss J. Dover has continued to act as temporary clerk in the Surveyor's office.

### LABORATORY WORK.

The following table shows the amount of work done in connection with the investigations of certain cases of illness during the year 1943 :—

Material	Examination for :	Result :	
		Pos.	Neg.
Throat or Nose Swabs	Diphtheria Bac.	0	8
Ditto	Streptoc. (Halmolyt)	0	1
Sputum	Tubercle Bac.	2	16
Vaginal Swab	Gonorrhœa	0	1
. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .	. . . . .

Speaking generally, other particulars relating to Health Services (e.g. Hospitals, Nursing, Maternity, Ambulance Facilities, etc.), remained unchanged.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### WATER SUPPLY.

There is little change to report for 1943.

The high purity of the town's water supply was maintained as indicated in the results of examination of four samples taken throughout the year.

**WATER MAINS.**—The Surveyor informs me there were no extensions or work of major importance during 1943.

### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No sewer extensions were carried out in 1943. The Surveyor informs me the sewage effluent from the Outfall Works continued to be satisfactory. The sludge was extensively used by farmers and the local Allotment and Gardeners' Association.

Closet Accommodation.—Unchanged.

## SCAVENGING AND REMOVAL OF REFUSE

The method of scavenging and removal of refuse proceeds as formerly.

Consideration was given by the Council to the question of purchasing a new up-to-date motor vehicle for the collection and removal of refuse and to do away with the present system of hiring.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

The sanitary inspection of the district is undertaken by Mr. J. Jenkins, who is also the Council's Surveyor and Water Engineer. It is again a pleasure to record my appreciation of his ever-willing co-operation, and I gratefully acknowledge his assistance in the making of this report.

Summary supplied by the Sanitary Inspector to the Medical Officer of Health, in pursuance of Article XIX of the Sanitary Officer's Order, 1926.

Premises inspected during the year ... ..	204
Nuisances or defects discovered ... ..	182
Do. do. remedied after informal notice ... ..	138
Do. do. do. statutory do. ... ..	12
Housing Inspections under Public Health or Housing Acts	54
Factories Inspections ... ..	43

### FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

The following table shows the position in this district at the end of 1943, and it will be seen that 23 premises were on the register. 43 inspections by the Sanitary Inspector revealed 10 defects, 9 of which were remedied.

Premises	Number	Inspections	Defects Found	Written Notices	Defects Remedied	Prosecutions
Factories with mech. power	7	15	3	3	3	—
Factories without mechanical power	16	28	7	7	6	—
Other Premises under the Act						
Totals ...	23	43	10	10	9	—

### SHOPS ACT, 1934.

No change. Periodical inspections were made by the Sanitary Inspector.

### RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

The Sanitary Inspector co-operates with officials of the County Council. Poison is still available at the Council Offices free of charge. The refuse tip continues to be occasionally baited with rat poison.

## HOUSING

Housing conditions relating to working class dwellings show little change. One new house was erected at High Hill; it was a case of a house removed from another area and re-erected in this district.

The position regarding renovation and repair work generally remains difficult.

No action was taken under the Housing (Rural Workers) Act, 1926.

### HOUSING APPENDIX.

(in accordance with Circular 1728 Ministry of Health, 25th Oct., 1938)



## STATISTICS.

- 1.— Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—
- (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 124
  - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 182
  - (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... 0
  - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... 0
  - (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 0
  - (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 0
- 2.— Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal Notices :  
 Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... 109
- 3.— Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—No action taken.
- 4.— Housing Act, 1936, Part iv.—Overcrowding :—No action taken.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

## MILK SUPPLY.

There were 6 registered milk-sellers whose premises were within the Urban District, all being producers and retailers. Inspections continue to be made periodically.

A large quantity of the town's milk supply is retailed by producers and retailers whose premises are situated in the surrounding Rural District. There were 8 of such producers and retailers during 1943.

The table below gives the results of 22 samples of milk retailed in the town and taken during 1943 by the Sanitary Inspector, and submitted for bacteriological examination to the Cumberland Pathological Laboratory, Carlisle.

Of the 22 samples, 11 were satisfactory and 11 unsatisfactory in relation to dirt contamination, as follows :—

				Satisfactory according to Accredited Standards	Unsatisfactory according to Accredited Standards	Total
Samples produced in	Urban District			10	4	14
„	„	outside	„	12	7	19
				—	—	—
				22	11	33

The 11 unsatisfactory samples comprised :—

- 6 failing the Methylene Blue Reduction test only ;
- 2 „ B. Coli test only (i.e., showing B. Coli in 2 or 3 tubes out of 3), and
- 3 „ Combined test.

All samples tested for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli proved negative (the same as in 1942).

On a sample of milk being reported as tubercular, investigation is made by veterinary officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. I am kindly informed by Mr. John Reid, Divisional Inspector of that Authority, that in so far as the Urban District of Keswick was concerned, one cow (in milk) was slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938, during the year under review, the type of disease found at Post Mortem being Tuberculosis with chronic cough, and showing definite clinical signs.



The only milk under "Special Designation" produced in the Keswick Urban District was by Mr. Martin Raven, High Hill Farm, who is also a large retailer.

#### MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—No change from the preceding year.

The following is a summary of meat condemned (owing to disease or putrefaction, etc.), together with other foods for which condemnation certificates were issued by the Sanitary Inspector :—

- 7 Bovine carcasses with 2 briskets, 4 sets of tripe and heels, 13 udders, 3 sets of lungs, 137 livers and 72 part livers, 3 heads and tongues (66 lbs.), 1 kidney and 58 lbs. of beef.
- 3 Sheep carcasses (with heads and plucks), 63 sheep livers, 40 plucks and 1 leg of mutton (5 lbs.).
- 28 lbs. Pork, 86 lbs. bacon and 1 ham (17 lbs.).
- 6 $\frac{3}{4}$  cwt. Fish (including 4 cwt. of kippers in boxes).
- 21 lbs. Butter, 43 tins Milk, 72 lbs. Cheese and 51 lbs. Margarine.
- A quantity of other foodstuffs, including 69 tins (varying sizes) meat, 28 tins savory lunch, 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  st. sausage and 1 tin sausage-meat, 68 tins fish, 98 tins (varying sizes) of soups, beans, peas, or other vegetables, 34 tins of fruit and 3 tins of jam.

BAKEHOUSES.—Six were in existence : they were periodically inspected and generally found in a cleanly condition, though two informal notices were necessary and were immediately complied with.

### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OF, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—The total number of Infectious Diseases notified during 1943 in the Keswick Urban District, including Pulmonary and other forms of Tuberculosis, was 20. Excluding Measles and Whooping Cough (vide post) the number was 17 (the figure in 1942 being 12).

#### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1943.

Disease				Total cases notified	Cases notified 1943 admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	3	3	0
Erysipelas	...	...	...	1	0	0
Pneumonia	...	...	...	5	0	0
Measles	...	...	...	2	0	0
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	1	0	0
Tuberculosis :—						
		Males		5	5 (San.)	1
Pulmonary		Females		1	1 "	0
		Males		2	0	2
Non-Pulmonary		Females		0	0	0

Table showing monthly incidence of notifiable Diseases, 1943 :—

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
Scarlet Fever ..			2					1					3
Erysipelas ...						1							1
Pneumonia ...											5		5
Measles... ..				1				1					2
Whooping Cough							1						1
Tuberculosis :													
Pulmonary...			1			1	1	2				1	6
Other Forms						1		1					2

From notifications received it is deduced that approximately one in every 310 persons in this district contracted a disease notifiable under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act (Chicken-pox, Measles and Whooping Cough excluded) and the Tuberculosis Regulations. (Last year's figure, 1 in 490 and in 1928 it was 1 in 177).

There were but three cases of Scarlet Fever notified in 1943—with ensuing recovery—so that the case rate and death rate per 1,000 of the population were respectively .56 and nil., these rates for England and Wales being 3.01 and .00.

There were no notifications of Diphtheria. The case rate and death rate of this disease, therefore, were each nil. per 1,000 of the population, those for England and Wales being respectively 0.88 and .03.

The campaign of immunisation against Diphtheria was continued as before. By the end of 1943 in this district it was estimated that approximately 88.6 per cent. of children under 15 years of age received the two immunising doses of A.P.T. (Alum præcipitated toxoid) as sponsored by the M. of Health. In splitting up the children immunised under 15 years into two age groups the figures work out as follows :—Under 5 years 67.0 per cent., and 5 to 15 years 95.3 per cent.

(N.B.—Infants under one year of age are not inoculated).

I have again had the welcome co-operation of the local medical practitioners, head teachers, and the County Health Visitor, Miss Lawson.

As in the previous twelve years, no case of Puerperal Pyrexia was recorded. The case rate for this disease (including Puerperal Fever) is better expressed in relation to the number of births registered than to the population. When calculated on this basis the rate is :—Puerperal Pyrexia, nil. per 1,000 total births (i.e., live and still births) registered during the year. The corresponding rate (1943) for England and Wales was 11.68. Again no maternal deaths occurred—corresponding, therefore, to a Maternal Mortality Rate of nil. per 1,000 total (live and still births), the same as in 1942.

**PNEUMONIA.**—Five notifications were received. The registered deaths from Pneumonia (all forms) numbered 4.

There were no notifications of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis, and, similar to the previous year, there were none of Typhoid (including Para-typhoid) Fever, Poliomyelitis, Encephalitis Lethargica, or Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

**TUBERCULOSIS.**—Under the Tuberculosis Regulations six cases (5 m. 1 f.) of Pulmonary were notified, and two (males) of Other Forms of Tuberculosis. Four (3 m. 1 f. pulm.) cases were admitted to Sanatorium during the year.

The following table gives the number of New Cases and Mortality (all cases) during 1943 :—

		New Cases				Deaths			
		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
Age		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
5—10	...	1	—	2	—	—	—	2	—
10—15	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 —& upwards		1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Totals	...	5	1	2	0	1	0	2	1

A statement regarding the total deaths from Tuberculosis will be found on page 7.

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1943 was as follows :—

	Males	Females	Total
Pulmonary ...	15	6	21
Non-pulmonary	2	7	9
All Cases .	17	13	30

No action has been required to be taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, which relates to powers regarding persons suffering from Tuberculosis of the respiratory tract, and in an infectious state, and employed in connection with a dairy or the handling of milk or milk vessels.

With reference to the Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62, regarding compulsory removal to hospital or institution, no action has been taken.

NON-NOTIFIABLE ACUTE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—Epidemics usually occur in conjunction with epidemics in the districts adjoining.

Influenza was, again, not markedly prevalent, but 1 death was attributed to this disease, so that the influenza death rate was .18 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with .34 in 1942. (The rate, 1943, for England and Wales, was .37.)

Re Measles and Whooping Cough (which became notifiable as from 1st November, 1939).—There were 2 cases of Measles notified (1 April, 1 August), whilst only one Whooping Cough notification was received (July).

The case rates of Measles and Whooping Cough (as per notifications) were respectively .37 and .18 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 9.88 and 2.54 for all England and Wales.

No death occurred from either Measles or Whooping Cough (as in the previous year), so that the death rates were nil. per 1,000 of the population, as compared with .02 and .03 respectively, for England and Wales, 1943.

There were no school closures due to epidemic disease during the year.



METEOROLOGICAL STATION

Height above sea level, 254 ft. Lat. 54° 36' N. Long. 3° 9' W.

RETURNS FOR 1943

RAINFALL						SUNSHINE				
	AMOUNT		Greatest Fall		Average		AMOUNT		Average	
MONTH	Inches	Days	on one day		41 years		HOURS	DAYS	41 years	
January.	8.77	on	22...	2.15	on 28th ...	6.31	...	17.1	on	10... 34.7
Feb. ....	5.96	,,	16...	1.86	,, 5th ...	4.60	...	45.9	,,	16... 53.1
March ...	1.70	,,	8...	.96	,, 29th ...	3.98	...	127.4	,,	24... 99.5
April ...	4.00	,,	18...	.85	,, 24th ...	2.97	...	100.6	,,	21... 128.7
May.....	5.14	,,	14...	1.37	,, 12th ...	3.24	...	202.6	,,	27... 177.9
June ....	3.90	,,	23...	.68	,, 18th ...	3.11	...	172.5	,,	27... 183.2
July .....	3.51	,,	15...	.97	,, 14th ...	4.27	...	212.0	,,	26... 159.5
August .	7.98	,,	28...	1.77	,, 5th ...	5.09	...	85.6	,,	26... 138.7
Sept. ...	6.54	,,	20...	1.35	,, 13th ...	4.41	...	93.0	,,	21... 120.9
October	8.87	,,	19...	2.77	,, 5th ...	6.78	...	75.0	,,	18... 79.0
Nov. ....	4.14	,,	18...	1.26	,, 23rd ...	5.56	...	34.2	,,	19... 27.0
Dec. ....	3.54	,,	17...	.63	,, 20th ...	6.47	...	28.9	,,	13... 26.5
Total..	64.05	,,	218...		... 56.79	...	1194.8	,,	248...	1228.7

TEMPERATURES

Month	HIGHEST MAXIMUM (in screen)	LOWEST MINIMUM (in screen)	LOWEST MINIMUM (on grass)	Nights Frost	Wind at Gale Force	Snow Laying
Jan. ...	53.0 on	27th...24.0 on	8th...12.0 on	4th...	10 ... 2 ...	...
Feb. ...	54.0 ,,	4th...30.0 ,,	8th...22.0 ,,	8th...	10 ... 1 ...	...
Mar. . .	58.0 ,,	18th...27.0 ,,	14th...18.0 ,,	15th...	15 ... ..	...
April ...	65.0 ,,	21st ...30.0 ,,	8th...21.0 ,,	8th...	6 ... 1 ...	...
May ...	73.0 ,,	18th...32.0 ,,	10th...27.0 ,,	4th...	4 ... ..	1
June ...	76.0 ,,	29th...42.0 ,,	23rd...34.0 ,,	17th...	... ..	...
July . .	82.0 ,,	31st...44.0 ,,	8th...37.0 ,,	10th...	... ..	...
August.	74.0 ,,	1st...45.0 ,,	27th...41.0 ,,	27th...	... ..	...
Sept. ...	68.0 ,,	9th...28.0 ,,	27th...26.0 ,,	26th...	2 ... ..	...
Oct. ....	63.0 ,,	10th...35.0 ,,	14th...28.0 ,,	14th...	1 ... ..	...
Nov. ...	60.0 ,,	3rd...26.0 ,,	26th...20.0 ,,	26th...	11 ... ..	...
Dec. . .	53.0 ,,	26th...23.0 ,,	13th...20.0 ,,	13th...	18 ... ..	...
Total ..	...	...	...	... 77	... 4 ...	1



## WIND

EARTH  
TEMPERATURES

Month	Calm	North Quad- rant	South Quad- rant	East Quad- rant	West Quad- rant	High- est 1 ft.	Low- est 1 ft.	High- est 4 ft.	Low- est 4 ft.
January .....	10	1	12	2	6	46.1	35.4	46.5	43.5
February.....	8	1	...	...	19	43.8	41.0	44.0	43.6
March .....	7	1	2	8	13	45.0	40.2	44.6	44.0
April .....	6	...	3	1	20	49.0	44.8	47.4	44.7
May.....	6	8	6	2	9	57.0	47.2	50.6	47.3
June .....	11	1	17	...	1	63.0	55.5	54.0	51.0
July.....	12	...	3	5	11	66.2	58.0	57.4	54.4
August .....	5	3	10	1	12	65.6	58.0	58.0	57.5
September .....	10	2	7	3	8	59.5	51.5	57.8	56.3
October .....	9	...	15	...	7	54.5	49.0	56.7	53.1
November .....	15	5	3	1	6	52.1	40.5	53.0	48.3
December .....	13	2	1	4	11	43.0	36.0	48.2	44.0
	112	24	79	27	123				

## ABNORMAL PRECIPITATION

Nov. 2nd and 3rd, 1931,	6.61 inches in 36 hours
November 3rd, 1931,	4.86   ,,
November 12th, 1938,	3.37   ,,
November 4th, 1926,	3.32   ,, in 9½ hours
December 24th, 1925,	3.50   ,,
August 2nd, 1923,	3.00   ,,
July 13th, 1932,	2.56   ,, in 5 hours
December 2nd, 1902,	3.12   ,,

## SUNDRY NOTES

Thunder heard, 8 days  
 Lightning observed, 6 days  
 Thunderstorm with precipitation, 7 days  
 Visibility less than 1,100 yards, 11 days  
 More than 1 inch of rain fell on 10 days  
 More than 2 inches of rain fell on 2 days  
 Warmest day, 82.0 July 31st  
 Warmest night, 64.0 July 31st  
 Coldest day, 24.0 Dec. 13th  
 Coldest night, 12.0 January 4th

## THE WEATHER OF 1943

- JANUARY. The first 10 days were cold with frost and sleet, followed by a wet spell, which grew worse as the month progressed. The 26th gave us a rainfall of 2.15 inches and the 30th 1.11, causing a slight flood. The month closed with a gale.
- FEBRUARY. The wet spell continued until the middle of the month. From Jan. 20th to Feb. 15th, 11.80 inches of rain was recorded. A gale was recored on the 12th. The second half of the month was fine and dry ; temperatures above normal.
- MARCH. The fine spell continued throughout the month and again temperature readings were above average.
- APRIL was showery with hail, sleet and rain, a slight thunderstorm on the 23rd and a gale on the 26th at least gave us a variety.
- MAY provided more than average rainfall and the only real snowfall of the winter, indeed the only snow of 1943. On the 10th snow fell early in the day and lay to a depth of 2 inches.
- JUNE was showery until the last week, a deficiency of bright sunshine, with few warm days.
- JULY continued cool, with showers of rain and hail until St. Swithen's Day (the 15th) which gave showers all day and led the believers in "Old Moore " and old-fashioned weather lore to expect 40 days of wet weather. However, in contradiction, the next 10 days were the real summer of 1943, during which the sun shone from cloudless skies, temperatures rose to the highest of the year, bathing was brisk and bees swarmed.
- AUGUST was very disappointing, rain fell on 28 days (two with more than an inch).
- SEPTEMBER was very disappointing ; 20 days with rain and sunshine well below average.
- OCTOBER gave heavy rain in the first week, 1.01 and 2.77 inches on 4th and 5th respectively causing a flood, accelerated probably by the raising of the road near Portinscale Bridge, which prevents normal flood passage, forcing the water back over the fields nearer Keswick.
- Serious inconvenience may be the lot of householders at High Hill if steps are not taken by the responsible authorities to provide a better escape for flood water along Portinscale Road.
- NOVEMBER and DECEMBER both gave less than average rain.

TOM WILSON.

Observer to Meteorological Society.



